

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/OT/STA:RWINSTANLEY:CLJ

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TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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TAGS: ETRD, CA, US

SUBJECT:USG CONTACTS FOR MICROWAVE OVEN SAFETY STANDARDS

REF: OTTAWA 2035

1. BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR RADIATION HAZARDS OF MICROWAVE OVENS LIES WITH FDA'S BUREAU OF RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH. APPROPRIATE CONTACT THERE WOULD BE ROBERT G. BRITAIN, DIRECTOR (301-443-4016), DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, WHICH HAS AUTHORITY OVER OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE OF INDIVIDUALS TO MICROWAVE RADIATION, COOPERATES CLOSELY WITH FDA, WHICH SETS PRODUCT STANDARDS FOR OVENS. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION IS CONCERNED ONLY WITH SHOCK HAZARD OF MICROWAVE OVENS. CONTACT THERE IS JOSEPH KIM (202-496-7571) BUREAU OF ENGINEERING SCIENCES.

2. FDA BUREAU OF RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH HAS DEVELOPED CLOSE INFORMAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS COUNTERPART IN GOC, MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE'S DIVISION OF RADIATION PROTECTION, HEADED BY DR. ADRIAN BOOTH. PRINCIPLE ACTIVITIES TO DATE HAVE BEEN MUTUAL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STANDARDS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON COMPLIANCE PROBLEMS OR INSPEC-

TION VISITS. FDA AND RADIATION PROTECTION DIVISION ARE
DISCUSSING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO FORMALIZE
RELATIONSHIP. KISSINGER

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